Testimony of Nate Greyson September 3, 2009 Before the Human Services and Public Health Committees

My name is Nate Greyson and the CVH detox unit saved my life.

In 1990 I was addicted to heroin and cocaine. I was homeless and infected, I later learned, with HIV and Hepatitis C. I was facing certain death until I entered the CVH detox unit. It was my very last hope.

I went through their program and was clean for 12 years. During that time I got a good job at Yale University and began a family. Things were good until I suffered a serious car accident. My injuries left me in tremendous pain. I become reliant on and then addicted to the pain medication.

But this time I knew where to go and without CVH I would have wound up back on the streets, fast losing my nine year old son, my health and my life. Since leaving the program I have been clean and healthy for the last two years.

There are hundreds of stories like mine. Countless lives will be rescued or saved if you keep the beds available for people in need.